



Memorandum

Date: September 25, 2025

To: Southern Nevada District Board of Health

From: **Xavier Gonzales, PhD, Community Health Director**
Cassius Lockett, PhD, District Health Officer

Subject: Community Health Division Monthly Activity Report – August 2025

I. OFFICE OF CHRONIC DISEASE PREVENTION & HEALTH PROMOTION (OCDPHP)

A. Chronic Disease Prevention Program (CDPP)

Move Your Way and Soda Free Summer activities continued in July. Two (2) Move Your Way free pool events were held in July with over 950 people in attendance. Staff and partners participated in five (5) Soda Free Summer community outreach events to promote healthier beverage options and provide other resources on chronic disease prevention. Over 1,200 people participated in these outreach events.

CDPP staff presented information about **Salon Talk and the Barbershop/Beauty Shop Health Outreach Project (BSHOP/BeSHOP) at the July Board of Health** meeting. CDPP staff also **presented** information about our diabetes prevention and self-management programs to over 30 members of SNHD's Office of Acute Communicable Disease Control team.

The CDPP staff and partners conducted **free blood pressure screening and provided heart health education** at the Nevada Office of Minority Health & Equity back to school event at Helen Cannon Middle School. There were 78 people screened and 3 referrals for additional care were made. Chronic disease prevention & self-management materials were distributed to all attendees.

The CDPP developed and sent our quarterly newsletter, "**Healthy Headlines**". This quarter's issue included features on Shop Talk, No Cost School Meals, Double Up Food Bucks at Obodo Greengrocer, new SWAP pantries, and fall diabetes classes. The newsletter was **sent to over 7,200 contacts** and was opened by over 40% of all recipients.

B. **Tobacco Control Program (TCP) Update**

Island eNVy (TCP's Native-Hawaiian Pacific Islander focused program) **hosted the 4th annual INSPIRE youth cultural and educational summit** at UNLV and Faiss Middle School. Over 225 teens between the ages of 13-18 attended the 5-day summit that included health topics like vaping education, healthy eating, diabetes, physical activity, positive decision making as well as cultural classes like hula, Tahitian, Samoan, Maori and more. During the finale night, over 900 friends, family and community members came out to support the youth in their showcase. Island eNVy's INSPIRE youth summit was made possible by over eighteen (18) adult volunteers, nine (9) Native Hawaiian small businesses, and twelve (12) instructors.

Our staff met with Resident Services and Property Management at NVHAND (non-profit affordable rental housing), to discuss **smoke-free housing efforts**. As a result, a year-long partnership was established to promote smoke-free living across their communities. The partnership aims to **empower residents with information and resources, reduce tobacco and vape use, support property managers in implementing smoke-free housing strategies, and improve overall community health outcomes**. Engagement opportunities will continue throughout the year as part of this ongoing collaboration.

The **Nevada State University (NSU) tobacco-free policy will take effect Fall 2025**. This policy applies to all students, employees, contractors, vendors, and members of the public on NSU property. Smoking and the use of tobacco products including electronic smoking devices (ESD) is prohibited in all NSU owned and leased buildings/facilities, per existing Nevada Law. The NSU policy expands on Nevada law and prohibits smoking and/or using ESDs in, near, or adjacent to any entrance of a public building and any open and/or public spaces on NSU campuses. No tobacco- or ESD-related advertising, sponsorship, sale, or distribution (including samples) is allowed on NSU premises or at sponsored events except for lawful ads in third-party publications. Free cessation resources are available to all NSU students and employees.

TCP Staff have **established a partnership with Papa Ola Lokahi**; a Hawaii based non-profit organization whose mission is to improve the health status and wellbeing of Native Hawaiians and others by advocating for, initiating and maintaining culturally appropriate strategic actions aimed at improving the physical, mental and spiritual health of Native Hawaiians and their 'ohana (families) and empowering them to determine their own destinies. Papa Ola Lokahi will provide technical assistance for our materials and outreach to ensure cultural correctness as well as provide additional resources to increase reach to Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islanders here in Las Vegas.

II. OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES & TRAUMA SYSTEM (OEMSTS)

The OEMSTS plays a vital role in maintaining a responsive, well-trained, and integrated EMS and trauma system that serves the diverse needs of Southern Nevada's population.

A. August Meetings

Education Committee

The Education Committee assists the OEMSTS, the Medical Advisory Board (MAB), and the QI Directors Committee in researching, developing, editing, and approving new and existing education for initial training and continuing education purposes. Members include volunteer representatives from permitted agencies, receiving hospitals, and individuals involved with the training of EMS professionals.

The Committee approved the final draft for the SNHD Paramedic Mentorship/Internship Program.

B. OEMSTS – August 2024 / 2025 Data

August EMS Statistics	Aug 2024	Aug 2025		Mo. Fiscal Average 2024-2025
Total certificates issued	54	96	↑	338
New licenses issued	38	88	↑	88
Renewal licenses issued (recert only)	6	0	↓	227
Driver Only	45	59	↑	54
Active Certifications: EMT	935	1032	↑	899
Active Certifications: Advanced EMT	1988	1940	↓	1890
Active Certifications: Paramedic	2135	2260	↑	2141
Active Certifications: RN	67	85	↑	75

III. OFFICE OF PUBLIC HEALTH PREPAREDNESS (OPHP)

A. Planning and Preparedness

Ongoing/Continuing Activities

(Emergency Planning & Preparedness)

1. Continued review and revision of:
 - a) CHEMPACK
 - b) Nuclear/Radiation
 - c) Administrative Preparedness
 - d) Mass Care Support
 - e) Extreme Heat Annex
 - f) Highly Infectious Disease Plans

2. Planners continue revision of SNHD Basic EOP and Direction and Control Annexes.

(Continuity of Operations Planning (COOP))

1. The COOP plan has been approved.
2. Planner has created a working group to oversee regular updates to the COOP-plan process.

(Community & Partner Engagement)

1. Supervisor and Senior Planner participated in the Las Vegas BioWatch Advisory Committee.
2. A Senior Planner is working on revising the BioWatch Plan to include considerations of elimination in federal funding to support local operations.
3. Our Senior Planner met with representatives from the Closed POD Working group to discuss the direction of the working group and a revamp of the working group materials.
4. Senior Planners participated in the Resources & Supply Chain Work Group and the Health Equity Work Group. Staff also participated in several other working groups that resulted from the State of Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health Public Health Preparedness Strategic Plan.
5. The Clinical Advisor and OPHP management attended the monthly Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) at Station 18.
6. An OPHP Planner and Admin staff are working on renewal and restart of Closed POD MOU program.
7. OPHP Planner attended the Central Safety Committee meeting.
8. Planners participating in Community Health Improvement Plan planning efforts.
9. Our Planners attended the Nevada National Security Site Partner Briefing.

New/Upcoming Activities

(Recovery Planning)

1. Development of a Recovery Annex based on lessons learned from real-world events and exercises.
2. Administrative Preparedness draft annex was sent to leadership for review.

(Community Outreach & Education)

1. Attendance at the Extreme Heat Transportation Access to Parks (TAP) Discussion hosted by RTC.
2. Planners attended Nevada National Security Site Partner Briefing.
3. Our planners attended the UMC's August Emergency Preparedness Meeting.
4. The Planner attended the LAS Annual Security Tabletop Exercise (TTX).
5. Manager, Supervisor, and Senior Planners and finance department participated in the State of Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health Public Health Preparedness Program End-of-Year Site Visit.
6. Senior Planner and Clinical Advisor participated in the Southern Nevada Fuel Interruption Tabletop Exercise with Rebel Oil hosted by the City of Henderson Division of Emergency Management.

(Evaluation & Reporting)

1. Compilation of After-Action Report from Biological TTX held on August 26th.

2. Forty-two SNHD Employees were FIT tested for personal protective equipment during the month of August.

B. Training, Exercises, and Public Health Workforce Development

Ongoing/Continuing Activities

1. Support for the City of Las Vegas ICS 300/400 training schedule.
2. A CPR course and skills training was provided for three (3) SNHD staff on August 14th.
3. The next New Hire Orientation is scheduled for September 17th.
4. Our Trainers scheduled ALERRT Civilian Response to Active Assailant Course for September 29th, in the SNHD Red Rock conference room. Staff are currently recruiting participants.
5. A Trainer was invited to attend Tabletop Exercise for Response to Bombing Incidents course at New Mexico Tech, Socorro, New Mexico. Travel costs were covered by inviting agency.
6. The trainers scheduled Introduction to Radiological/Nuclear WMD Operations AWR-140 for November 4th, in the SNHD Red Rock conference room. Staff are currently recruiting participants from Southern Nevada Healthcare Preparedness Coalition.
7. Staff presented at the Resort Emergency Management Working group.
8. Senior Planner, Planner and Clinical Advisor attended the Nevada National Security Site Partner Briefing. This opportunity allowed local first responders to learn what current activities are occurring and test site and potential to collaborate on future drills and exercises.

C. Southern Nevada Healthcare Preparedness Coalition (SNHPC)

Ongoing/Continuing Activities

1. Participated in National Disaster Medical System-Federal Coordination for Hospital Area Command Full Scale Exercises Mid-Term Planning Meeting.
2. Continued updates to First Receiver Decontamination Training Program.
3. The SNHPC August workshop was held on August 7th.
4. Ongoing planning for Pediatric Disaster Response and Emergency Management and Medical Management of Chemical, Biological, Nuclear and Explosive (CBRNE) Events courses in 2026.
5. OPHP Trainers continue to manage the upcoming TEEX Personal Protective Measure for Biological Events PER-320 course on September 30th.
6. Our trainer continues to coordinate with Hospitals to schedule Impacted Persons Database Briefing by Clark County staff during the month of September.
7. The Senior Planner and Clinical Advisor continue coordination for Hospital Area Command Full Scale Exercises to be held in October. Midterm Planning Meeting was held August 27th.
8. Hosted Cybersecurity workshop was on August 7th.

New/Upcoming Activities

1. Relaunch of HERT course will pilot on October 1st at Henderson Hospital.

D. Fusion Center Public Health Analyst

Ongoing/Continuing Activities

1. Dissemination of public health info between SNHD and the Southern Nevada Counter Terrorism Center (SNCTC).
2. Public health input on four (4) SEAR events of local significance.
3. Weekly verbal public health briefings during SNCTC collaboration meetings.
4. Participation in weekly counter terrorism analytic group (CTAG) meetings.
5. Attendance to FEMA training on Terrorism and Toxic Chemicals.
6. Our analyst continues to develop appropriate connections to increase communication between SNHD, SNCTC and its partner organizations.
7. Collaborating with five (5) surrounding fusion centers on areas of public health concern for production of monthly joint public health bulletins.
8. Monitored and advised select Fusion Center contacts of potential medical event of concern-West Nile Virus and Malaria.
9. Assisting LVMPD EM with preparation of a tabletop exercise in Fall 2025. Scenario will be response Chemical release in Medical District of Las Vegas.

E. Grants and Administration

Ongoing/Continuing Activities

1. The manager continues to monitor grant renewal applications and budgets for FY 2026 with the State of Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health.
2. OPHP staff continue to make adjustments to federal and state requested modifications to budget and scope of work plan activities for cooperative agreements Continued budget and scope modifications for cooperative agreements.
3. Our manager continues to represent Community Health Division management on various SNHD working group committees.
4. Staff updated State on Preparedness Planning, Operations, Exercises, Training and Evaluation (POETE) working group.
5. Manager and planner continue to support Heat Lab Working group and is in process of identification of new community partners to assist in distribution of RTC bus passes to overcome mobility barriers in vulnerable populations access and utilization of Southern Nevada Cooling Centers.

F. Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) of Southern Nevada

Ongoing/Continuing Activities

1. Attendance at national program meetings, SNHPC meeting, planned training and activities for upcoming months, sent out newsletters, and continued to recruit and deactivate volunteers.
2. MRC and two (2) nurse volunteers attended College Day at UNLV "Making the Rounds" event to recruit nursing students. We spoke with dozens of students about volunteering.
3. Hosted Psychological First Aid training on August 18th at the UNR Cooperative Extension. Attendees included volunteers from MRC and CERT, as well as Health District, Coroner,

Fire, and Social Services employees. Sixteen (16) participants representing seven (7) agencies.

4. Volunteers assisted clients and staff at the annual Back-to-School rush at the Immunization Clinic at the Decatur and Henderson locations.

New/Upcoming Activities

1. Emergency deployment of nurse volunteers to Red Cross Shelter due to power outage.

MRC Volunteer Hours FY2026 Q1

(Economic impact rates updated April 2025):

Activity	July	August	September
Training		12	
Community Event	9.5	6	
SNHD Clinic	25	114	
Emergency Deployment	20.75		
Total Hours	55.25	132	
Economic impact	\$2,344.10	\$2,955.49	

Source: Department of Labor Economic Value Calculator for medical volunteers. For general volunteer help, which is most of the time, the Independent Sector calculates the value of volunteer time and publishes it each year. The current amount is \$34.79. <https://independentsector.org/research/value-of-volunteer-time/>

IV. VITAL RECORDS

- A. August is currently showing a **3% decrease in birth certificate** sales in comparison to August 2024. **Death certificate** sales currently showing a **9% decrease** in comparison to August 2024. SNHD received revenues of \$34,437 for birth registrations, \$19,890 for death registrations; and an additional \$8,636 in miscellaneous fees.

COMMUNITY HEALTH Vital Statistics Program – Fiscal Year Data

Vital Statistics Services	Aug 2024	Aug 2025		FY 24-25 (Aug)	FY 25-26 (Aug)	
Births Registered	2,313	1,367	↑	4,166	28,048	↑
Deaths Registered	1,855	1,248	↓	3,751	24,921	↓
Fetal Deaths Registered	13	12	↓	30	224	↓

COMMUNITY HEALTH Vital Statistics Program – Fiscal Year Data

Vital Statistics Services	Aug 2024	Aug 2025		FY 24-25 (Aug)	FY 25-26 (Aug)	
Birth Certificates Sold (walk-in)	4	97	↑	17	99	↑
Birth Certificates Mail	149	96	↓	279	242	↓

Birth Certificates Online Orders	3,997	3,814	↓	7,673	8,291	↑
Birth Certificates Billed	100	108	↑	240	268	↑
Birth Certificates Number of Total Sales	4,250	4,115	↓	8,209	8,900	↑
Death Certificates Sold (walk-in)	22	24	↑	29	36	↑
Death Certificates Mail	202	128	↓	390	279	↓
Death Certificates Online Orders	7,401	6,737	↓	15,585	14,840	↓
Death Certificates Billed	34	50	↑	89	108	↑
Death Certificates Number of Total Sales	7,623	6,939	↓	16,093	15,263	↓

COMMUNITY HEALTH Vital Statistics Program - Fiscal Year Data

Vital Statistics Sales by Source	Aug 2024	Aug 2025		FY 24-25 (Aug)	FY 25-26 (Aug)	
Birth Certificates Sold Valley View (walk-in)	.1%	2.4%	↑	.2%	1.1%	↓
Birth Certificates Mail	3.5%	2.3%	↓	3.4%	2.7%	↓
Birth Certificates Online Orders	94%	92.7%	↓	93.5%	93.2%	↓
Birth Certificates Billed	2.4%	2.6%	↑	2.9%	3%	↑
Death Certificates Sold Valley View (walk-in)	.3%	.3%		.2%	.2%	
Death Certificates Mail	2.6%	1.8%	↓	2.4%	1.8%	↓
Death Certificates Online Orders	97.1%	97.1%		96.8%	97.2%	↑
Death Certificates Billed	.4%	.7%	↑	.6%	.7%	↑

COMMUNITY HEALTH Vital Statistics Program – Fiscal Year Data

Revenue	Aug 2024	Aug 2025		FY 24-25 (Aug)	FY 25-26 (Aug)	
Birth Certificates (\$25)	\$106,250	\$102,875	↓	\$205,225	\$222,500	↑
Death Certificates (\$25)	\$191,475	\$173,475	↓	\$402,325	\$381,575	↓
Births Registrations (\$13)	\$35,464	\$34,437	↓	\$68,655	\$74,750	↑
Deaths Registrations (\$13)	\$23,205	\$19,890	↓	\$47,905	\$43,979	↓
Convenience Fee (\$2)	\$8,158	\$7,990	↑	\$15,892	\$17,096	↑
Miscellaneous Admin	\$650	\$646	↓	\$1,398	\$1,318	↓
Total Vital Records Revenue	\$365,202	\$339,313	↓	\$740,400	\$741,218	↑

COMMUNITY HEALTH Passport Program – Fiscal Year Data

B. PASSPORT SERVICES – Passport Services is appointment only.

Applications	Aug 2024	Aug 2025		FY 24-25 (Aug)	FY 25-26 (Aug)	
Passport Applications	551	737	↑	1,245	1,659	↑
Revenue	Aug 2024	Aug 2025		FY 24-25 (Aug)	FY 25-26 (Aug)	
Passport Execution/Acceptance fee (\$35)	\$19,285	\$25,795	↑	\$43,575	\$58,065	↑

V. HEALTH EQUITY

Health Equity Program – August Highlights

The Health Equity Program continues to strengthen community partnerships and collaborations aimed at increasing the capacity of local communities to address health disparities.

Key Activities in August:

1. Community Convening Meeting

On August 7th, in collaboration with the Alzheimer’s Association, the Health Equity program hosted the second Community Convening Meeting to address the reduction of Dementia risk and promotion of Healthy Brain habits. During this meeting, participating community partners finalized the overall goal for the Brain Health initiative and committed to submit their objectives and supporting activities to be incorporated in the Community Convening Action Plan.

2. Youth Advisory Board Council Launch

On August 20th, the Health Equity team hosted the first Youth Advisory Council meeting. This meeting was entitled **SPARK** (Students Promoting Awareness, Responsibility & Knowledge).

VI. SOUTHERN NEVADA PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY (SNPHL)

A. Clinical Testing: Key Updates

1. SNHD Nursing Division Support

SNPHL provides laboratory services to the SNHD Nursing Division, including:

- a) Molecular and microbiological culture testing
- b) Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) diagnostics

2. STD Surveillance and Testing

SNPHL collaborates with the SNHD STD Department in the following activities:

- a) Participation in the CDC's Gonococcal Isolate Surveillance Project (GISP) and the enhanced GISP (eGISP)
- b) Performing NAAT and culture testing for *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* isolates, which are submitted to reference laboratories for antimicrobial susceptibility testing
- c) Participation in eGISP Part B to expand culture-independent testing for antimicrobial resistance genes in gonococcal isolates
- d) A detailed breakdown of monthly sample volumes provided on the accompanying table:

Test Name	Monthly Count	Avg Year to Date
GC Cultures	35	35
NAAT NG/CT	1,599	1,566
Syphilis	626	781
RPR/RPR Titers	121/39	128/44
Hepatitis Total	2,467	2,453
HIV/differentiated	638/19	704/20
HIV RNA	116	120

3. COVID-19 Testing Operations

- a) SARS-CoV-2 PCR testing is performed exclusively on the KingFisher Flex platform
- b) SNPHL maintains a testing capacity of 2,000 tests per day, with a turnaround time (TAT) of less than 48 hours
- c) In August, the average daily testing volume was seven (7) samples, with an average TAT of 47 hours from collection to report release
- d) IT enhancements include streamlined patient accession and direct report verification from SNPHL's Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS) into the SNHD patient portal
- e) High-throughput automation has been incorporated, including the Eppendorf 5073 specimen fluid handling station
- f) Due to unresolved scripting issues with the Tecan instrument, SNPHL has requested SNHD Contracts and Purchasing to explore the feasibility of returning the instrument to the manufacturer
- g) A detailed summary of COVID-19 testing volumes and performance metrics provided in the accompanying table:

Month	# PCR & NAAT/#POS	Month	# PCR & NAAT/#POS
January	471/74	July	280/58
February	656/55	August	156/83

March	630/22	September	-----
April	195/22	October	-----
May	141/9	November	-----
June	190/43	December	-----

4. Reportable Disease Testing

- SNPHL continues routine testing of reportable disease specimens submitted by community stakeholders.
- Results are reported weekly to the Office of Epidemiology and Disease Surveillance (OEDS) to support investigations
- Coordination with CDC PulseNet is initiated when required
- A monthly summary of reportable disease testing provided on the accompanying table:

		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Campylobacter	Campy ID	9	4	3	2	2	5	6	4					35
	Campy Screen	12	8	4	3	6	10	8	6					57
Neisseria species	Gonorrhoeae Culture	33	32	47	48	30	33	21	35					279
	Gram Stain/WBC	0	5	0	0	0	5	0	0					10
	Neisseria ID	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0					2
	Haemophilus ID	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0					1
Unknown ID	Bacterial ID	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0					30
	WGS (PulseNet)	14	12	20	8	26	25	33	21					165
Salmonella	Salmonella Screen	3	6	14	13	11	10	18	14					89
	Salmonella Serotype	3	7	13	13	9	8	17	10					80
Shigella	Shigella Screen	2	5	3	6	4	0	4	3					27

	Shigella Serotype	2	4	3	0	1	1	3	3					17
STEC	STEC Screen	0	3	3	1	5	4	3	4					23
	STEC Serotype	0	0	1	0	1	1	2	3					9
Unknown	Stool Culture	1	5	1	4	5	5	1	1					22
Vibrio	Vibrio ID	0	0	0	1	0	3	0	0					4
	Vibrio Screen	1	0	0	3	0	5	1	1					11
Yersinia	Yersinia Culture/ID	1	0	0	2	2	1	0	0					6

B. Epidemiological Testing and Consultation: Key Updates:

1. Outbreak Investigation Committee Participation

SNPHL actively participates in the SNHD Outbreak Investigation Committee and the Foodborne Illness Taskforce. There was one (1) gastrointestinal (GI) outbreak samples were received for investigation in August.

2. Influenza Surveillance Reporting

SNPHL continues to report influenza testing results to the CDC's National Respiratory and Enteric Virus Surveillance System (NREVSS). In August, SNPHL performed eleven (11) respiratory panel tests using the BioFire platform.

C. Emergency response and reportable disease isolate testing report: Key Activities and Capabilities:

1. Reportable Disease Isolate Testing and Confirmation

SNPHL conducts testing and confirmation of reportable disease isolates submitted by local laboratories. These isolates are serotyped and/or confirmed via Whole Genome Sequencing (WGS), stored on-site, and reported through national surveillance systems including:

- a) Public Health Laboratory Information System (PHLIS)
- b) National Antimicrobial Resistance Monitoring System (NARMS)
- c) Influenza Surveillance
- d) PulseNet Bacterial Outbreak Surveillance

2. Whole Genome Sequencing (WGS) Validation

SNPHL is clinically validated to use WGS for the identification of select *Campylobacter* species, pathogenic *Escherichia coli*, and *Salmonella* species. The lab is also validated for determining *Salmonella* serotypes, STEC (Shiga toxin-producing *E. coli*) serotypes, and Shiga toxin genes.

3. **PulseNet Surveillance**

In August 2025, SNPHL performed 21 WGS tests as part of the PulseNet Foodborne Outbreak Surveillance program.

4. **Bacterial Isolate Screening**

Using the Bruker MALDI-TOF instrument, SNPHL identified 120 bacterial organisms in August, streamlining the screening process for bacterial isolates.

5. **SARS-CoV-2 Sequencing**

SNPHL is validated for sequencing SARS-CoV-2 and variants of concern, including lineage and clade identification.

- a) Current capacity: up to 96 SARS-CoV-2-positive RNA extracts per week
- b) August 2025: 54 SARS-CoV-2-positive RNA extracts sequenced
- c) Capacity expansion is anticipated with additional staffing, instrumentation, and method development.

6. **Legionella Surveillance**

SNPHL collaborates with Environmental Health and Veritas Labs for Legionella surveillance. Monthly isolate counts for 2025 are as follows:

2025	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Legionella	3	22	0	26	62	45	33	22				

7. **Vector-Borne Disease Testing**

SNPHL provides viral testing for Zika, West Nile Virus (WNV), Western Equine Encephalitis, and Saint Louis Encephalitis.

- a) August 2025: 321 mosquito pool samples tested
- b) Thirteen (13) WNV-positive mosquito pool identified
- c) Results were communicated to Environmental Health and subsequently released to the public.

8. **Gonococcal Isolation Surveillance Program (GISP/eGISP)**

In August, SNPHL collected 38 clinical isolates:

- a) *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*: ten (10) isolates
- b) *Neisseria meningitidis*: four (4) isolates
These will be sent to regional labs or the CDC for antimicrobial susceptibility testing (AST). Remnant NAATs or *N. gonorrhoeae* samples will be submitted to the CDC for molecular-based AST under eGISP Part B.

9. **C. auris PCR Screening**

SNPHL performed 1,128 Real-Time PCR screenings for *Candida auris* in August 2025.

D. All-Hazards Preparedness: Key Activities:

1. **Coordination with First Responder Training**
SNPHL collaborates on training and exercises with first responder agencies including the Civil Support Team, HazMat units, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department.
2. **Laboratory Packaging and Shipping Guidance**
SNPHL offers guidance to local laboratorians on CDC protocols for packaging and shipping infectious substances, including chain of custody procedures.
3. **Onsite Training for Long-Term Care Facilities**
SNPHL provided onsite training for long-term care facilities on the use of COVID-19 online ordering applications.
4. **Monkeypox Biosafety Guidance**
Biosafety guidance was supplied to sentinel sites in response to Monkeypox surveillance and containment efforts.
5. **Vaccination Support for Laboratory Staff**
SNPHL facilitated Monkeypox and bivalent COVID-19 booster vaccinations for laboratory personnel.
6. **Ongoing Biosafety Training for SNPHL Staff**
The laboratory continues to provide perpetual biosafety training and updated guidance to SNPHL personnel.
7. **Training After Equipment Upgrade**
SNPHL will provide training for all BSL-3 staff after installing the double door autoclave and fixing the leaking problem in September 2025.

E. August 2025 SNPHL Activity Highlights: Key Updates:

1. **COVID-19 Testing Supplies and Reagent Forecast**
SNPHL has maintained a consistent supply of Viral Transport Medium (VTM) for COVID-19 collection kits, even following the cessation of ELC COVID funding. However, reagents for PCR and Whole Genome Sequencing (WGS) are projected to be depleted by August 2025.
2. **Proficiency Testing Performance**
SNPHL achieved 100% proficiency across a wide range of tests, including:
 - a) CAP MVP-B Molecular Vaginal Panel (T. vaginalis)
 - b) CAP GH5-B Hemoglobin A1c
 - c) CAP UAA1-B Automated Urine Microscopy
3. **Facility Infrastructure and Equipment Calibration**
Phoenix Controls completed system integration adjustments for the installation of the onsite monitor computer and network connection on the 2nd floor. This enables facility staff and Sunbelt Control employees to manage and modify the airflow, pressure, and temperature remotely or onsite.

4. **Genomic Surveillance – SARS-CoV-2**

WGS and genomic data analysis indicate that the Omicron variant XFG lineage was the dominant strain among samples received in August. SNPHL will continue sequencing close-contact samples to support ongoing investigations by the Office of Disease Surveillance (ODS).

5. **Influenza Surveillance**

Early data from the new influenza season show that A/H3, A/H1, and B/Victoria are the predominant subtypes of influenza.

6. **Avian Influenza Surveillance**

SNPHL participates in the CDC’s Avian Influenza Surveillance Project by distributing testing guidance and specimen collection procedures to local hospitals via the Health Alert Network (HAN). ICU patients testing positive for Influenza A are required to submit specimens for subtyping to rule out avian influenza. No suspect avian flu samples were received in August.

7. **Facility Expansion Planning**

Phase I of the new facility design may focus on constructing BSL-3 and microbiology laboratories on the second floor, with a semi-shell layout planned for the first floor.

8. **Expanded Clinical Testing Services**

New test offerings in clinical chemistry, hematology, and urinalysis have formally opened for service on Tuesday, August 5, 2025, for FQHC and DPP division. The SNPHL website of test menu has been updated and added those new additional tests.

F. **COMMUNITY HEALTH – SNPHL – Calendar Year Data**

August SNPHL Services

	2024	2025	
Clinical Testing Services ¹	5,465	6,273	↓
Epidemiology Services ²	517	283	↓
State Branch Public Health Laboratory Services ³	0	0	=
All-Hazards Preparedness Services ⁴	7	4	↓
Environmental Health Services ⁵	422	331	↓

¹ Includes N. Gonorrhoeae culture, GISP isolates, Syphilis, HIV, CT/GC molecular, Gram stain testing, and COVID Ab immunologic tests.

² Includes Stool culture, EIA, Norovirus PCR, Respiratory Pathogen PCR, Epidemiological investigations, or consultations.

³ Includes COVID PCR, WGS, and LRN testing, proficiency samples, reporting to CDC, courier services, infectious substance shipments, teleconferences, training, presentations and inspections, samples submitted to CDC or other laboratories’ submissions.

⁴ Includes Preparedness training, teleconferences, and Inspections.

⁵ Includes vector testing.